

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-09

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USIA-06 NSC-05 OES-03 OMB-01 H-01 IGA-01 SS-15

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FM AMEMBASSY AMMAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3663

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 AMMAN 0707

BEIRUT FOR DEA ASIAC MILLER

ANKARA FOR DEA RO BRIGGS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SNAR, JO

SUBJ: SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT ON JORDANIAN NARCOTICS PROGRAM

REF: STATE 012151

1. FOLLOWING REPLIES ARE KEYED TO REQUIREMENTS IN
REFERENCE.

2. SECTION A:

A) PROAG TO PROVIDE \$162,000 WORTH OF EQUIPMENT WAS SIGNED ON
DECEMBER 31, 1974. PURPOSE OF THIS PROAG IS TO PROVIDE EQUIPMENT
TO JORDANIAN NARCOTICS BUREAU TO ENABLE IT TO BETTER CARRY OUT
ITS ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM.

B) FOREGOING BROKEN OUT OF FY 1975 FUNDS. IN ADDITION THE AMOUNT
OF \$16,600 WAS EXPENDED TO COVER THE TRAVEL AND TRAINING OF FOUR
JORDANIAN NARCOTICS BUREAU OFFICERS TO THE UNITED STATES TO ATTEND
A DEA ADVANCED COURSE FOR NARCOTICS OFFICERS.

D) EQUIPMENT:

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(1) NONE

(2) NONE. EQUIPMENT COVERED IN PROAG WILL ENTER PIPELINE IN LAST SIX MONTHS OF FY 1975.

D) NONE

E) FOUR OFFICERS OF THE JORDANIAN NARCOTICS BUREAU ATTENDED DEA ADVANCE INTERNATIONAL DRUG ENFORCEMENT SCHOOL NO. 8 IN NOVEMBER 1974. ALSO IN NOVEMBER 1974, DEA CONDUCTED A TWO-WEEK COURSE FOR ARAB LEAGUE NARCOTICS OFFICERS IN AMMAN. THIS COURSE WAS ATTENDED BY 17 JORDANIAN OFFICERS, 2 SYRIANS, 2 IRAQIS, 2 LIBYANS, 5 U.A.E., 2 EGYPTIANS, 2 OMANIS, AND 1 SAUDI, FOR A TOTAL OF 31 OFFICERS IN ALL.

F) NONE

3. SECTION B.

A) SUMMARY: DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD, WHILE SEIZURES WERE DOWN, BUYING PRICES OF HASHISH AND OPIUM INCREASED SIGNIFICANTLY DUE TO SHORTAGE OF DRUGS AND STRONG ENFORCEMENT MEASURES BY JORDANIAN NARCOTICS BUREAU. INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION BY THE BUREAU ON TRAFFICKING INCREASED AND COORDINATION BETWEEN THE JORDANIAN, SYRIAN AND SAUDI SERVICES IMPROVED. JORDAN PLAYED A SIGNIFICANT ROLE IN ARAB LEAGUE NARCOTICS BUREAU MEETING AT JIDDA. JORDANIAN NARCOTICS BUREAU PROVIDED VALUABLE INFORMATION TO DEA ON NARCOTICS TRAFFICKING IN AREAS WHICH ARE DENIED TO DEA AGENTS, THUS GIVING DEA A BETTER IDEA OF THE SITUATION REGARDING NARCOTICS ENFORCEMENT PROGRAMS IN THOSE AREAS.

B) ABUSE: DRUG ABUSE HAS NEVER BEEN A PROBLEM IN JORDAN AND THE NUMBER OF ADDICTS IN JORDAN WAS UNCHANGED DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD. JORDANIAN NARCOTICS BUREAU ESTIMATES THE NUMBER OF HARD HASHISH ADDICTS AT 100-150 AND THE NUMBER OF OPIUM ADDICTS AT 40-50. DUE TO THE SMALL NUMBER OF ADDICTS, THE GOJ DOES NOT HAVE ANY FORMAL TREATMENT AND REHABILITATION PROGRAM. ANY ADDICT WHO REQUESTS MEDICAL AND/OR PSYCHIATRIC CARE, HOWEVER, IS GIVEN IT. IN 1973 THERE WAS A PROBLEM WITH THE PSYCHOTROPIC DRUG MANDREX, WHICH WAS BEING PURCHASED BY OPIUM ADDICTS FOR USE WHEN THEY COULD NOT ACQUIRE OPIUM. THIS WAS SOMETIMES MIXED WITH THE JUICE OF THE DISGARDED OPIUM POPPY TOP, THE LATTER OFTEN USED AS AN OPIATE FOR NEWBORN CHILDREN IN TURKEY. JORDANIAN NARCOTICS BUREAU INFLUENCED THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH TO REMOVE THIS DRUG FROM THE LOCAL MARKET. ADDICTS NOW ARE USING THE DRUG VISBREX BUT THERE IS NOT ENOUGH OF A PROBLEM FOR IT TO BE WITHDRAWN FROM THE MARKET AT THIS TIME. THE MOST COMMON AMPHETAMINE IN USE IN

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JORDAN AT THE MOMENT IS CAPTAGOL BUT ABUSE OF THIS DRUG IS CONSIDERED MINOR.

C) PRODUCTION AND PROCESSING: DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD ONE SMALL CROP OF TWENTY HASHISH PLANTS WAS CONFISCATED. THERE IS NO OPIUM OR CANNABIS PRODUCTION PER SE IN JORDAN. NEITHER IS THERE ANY ILLICIT PROCESSING OF OPIATES OR PSYCHOTROPIC DRUGS.

D) TRAFFICKING TRENDS: ROUTE NOW USED BY TRAFFICKERS FOR HASHISH IS LEBANON-SYRIA-JORDAN-SAUDI ARABIA AND THEN SOMETIMES TO

EGYPT FROM SAUDIA ARABIA. A SMALL AMOUNT OF HASHISH ALSO TRANS-ITS JORDAN TO THE ISRAELI OCCUPIED WEST BANK, AND THEN TO ISRAEL PROPER. OPIUM COMES FROM TURKEY TO SYRIA TO JORDAN AND ON TO SAUDI ARABIA AND EGYPT. A NEW TREND HAS BEEN NOTICED IN THAT LEBANESE AND SYRIAN TRAFFICKERS SEEM TO BE DEPENDING ON SAUDI NATIONS LA WITH SAUDI REGISTERED VEHICLES TO CARRY DRUGS FROM LEBANON AND SYRIA TO SAUDI ARABIA.

E) REGIONAL AND MULTILATERAL COOPERATION:

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE JORDANIAN NARCOTICS BUREAU AND OTHER BUREAUS OF COUNTRIES OF THE ARAB LEAGUE IS EXCELLENT. JORDAN ENJOYS PARTICULARLY CLOSE COOPERATION WITH THE SYRIANS AND THE SAUDIS AND THE THREE COUNTRIES' BUREAUS RECENTLY COOPERATED JOINTLY IN A LARGE COUNTERFEIT/NARCOTICS CASE INVOLVING NATIONALS OF THE THREE COUNTRIES. JORDAN, IN NOVEMBER 1974, HOSTED A DEA CONDUCTED COURSE FOR ARAB LEAGUE NARCOTICS OFFICERS AS DESCRIBED IN PARA 2 E ABOVE. JORDAN ALSO ATTENDED THE ARAB LEAGUE NARCOTICS OFFICER CONFERENCE HELD IN JIDDA IN NOVEMBER 1974. AT THIS CONFERENCE THE JORDANIAN REPRESENTATIVE PROPOSED A FLYING SQUAD CONSISTING OF REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL MEMBERS OF THE ARAB LEAGUE NARCOTICS BUREAU WHICH COULD FORM TEAMS TO ASSIST VARIOUS MEMBER COUNTRIES IN NARCOTICS INVESTIGATIONS INVOLVING NATIONALS OF OTHER ARAB COUNTRIES. THIS PROPOSAL WILL BE CONSIDERED AT THE ARAB LEAGUE POLICE CHIEFS' CONFERENCE IN APRIL 1975.

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ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IGA-01 SS-15 AID-05 H-01 DEAE-00

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3664

INFO AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 AMMAN 0707

BEIRUT FOR DEA ASIAC MILLER
ANKARA FOR DEA RO BRIGGS

F) EMBASSY AND HOST GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES: AN EMBASSY OFFICER IS IN REGULAR LIAISON CONTACT WITH THE JORDANIAN NARCOTICS BUREAU. PROGRAM NEGOTIATIONS WERE COMPLETED ON DECEMBER 31, 1974 WHEN THE PROAG WAS SIGNED. IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT THE EXPENDITURE COVERED IN THE PROAG IS A ONE-TIME EXPENDITURE AND THE ONLY ASSISTANCE FORESEEN IN FUTURE FY'S WILL BE TO COVER THE COST OF SENDING ONE JORDANIAN NARCOTICS OFFICER PER YEAR TO A DEA TRAINING COURSE. THERE WERE NO CHANGES IN THE POLITICAL CLIMATE IN JORDAN WHICH AFFECTED THE PROGRAM IN THIS REPORTING PERIOD.

G) SEIZURES WERE DOWN DURING THIS REPORTING PERIOD. IN THE PAST SIX MONTHS, THE JORDANIAN NARCOTICS BUREAU SEIZED 30.8 KILOGRAMS OF OPIUM AND 120 KILOGRAMS OF HASHISH. MORE SIGNIFICANT HAVE BEEN THE INCREASES IN PRICES FOR HASHISH AND OPIUM IN JORDAN. IN 1972 HASHISH WAS SELLING IN AMMAN FOR 20-30 JORDANIAN DINARS PER KILO; IN 1973 50 JORDANIAN DINARS PER KILO; AT THE END OF THIS REPORTING PERIOD THE PRICE JUMPED TO 100 JORDANIAN DINARS PER KILO. IN 1972 OPIUM WAS AVAILABLE IN JORDAN FOR 100 JORDANIAN DINARS PER KILO; IN 1973 THE PRICE ROSE TO 200 JORDANIAN DINARS PER KILO: AT THE END OF THIS REPORTING PERIOD ONE KILO OF OPIUM BRINGS 400 JORDANIAN DINARS. ALSO INTERESTING THAT IN 1973, 80 JORDANIANS AND 8 FOREIGNERS WERE CONVICTED OF NARC-
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OTICS TRAFFICKING WHILE IN 1974 ONLY 20 JORDANIANS BUT 12 FOREIGNERS WERE CONVICTED. JORDANIAN TRAFFICKERS HAVE BECOME VERY CAUTIOUS AND SOME HAVE EVEN GIVEN UP THE TRADE DUE TO THE VIGOROUS INVESTIGATIVE AND ENFORCEMENT PROGRAM OF THE JORDANIAN NARCOTICS BUREAU IN 1973 AND 1974. OPIUM AND HASHISH ARE EXTREMELY SCARCE AND THE LOCAL MARKET FOR THE SAME REASON. NARCOTICS CASES ARE STILL TRIED BY MILITARY COURT AND THE SENTENCES ARE STIFF ALTHOUGH IN RECENT MONTHS THE SENTENCES HAVE BEEN COMMUTED BY ROYAL DECREE, MORE AS AN EXPERIMENT. IF A TRAFFICKER IS CAUGHT A SECOND TIME, HOWEVER, HE CAN BE EXPECTED TO SERVE THE FULL TERM. DURING THE PAST SIX MONTHS THE JORDANIAN NARCOTICS BUREAU OPENED BRANCH OFFICES IN IRBID AND MA'AN. WITH SO LITTLE ACTUAL TRAFFICKING IN JORDAN ITSELF, AND THE LACK OF A DRUG ABUSE PROBLEM, THE JORDANIAN NARCOTICS BUREAU IN THE PAST SIX MONTHS CONCENTRATED ON OPERATIONS DESIGNED TO COLLECT INTELLIGENCE ON TRAFFICKING IN SYRIA AND TURKEY WITH PARTICULAR ATTENTION GIVEN TO THOSE TRAFFICKING OPERATIONS WITH CONNECTIONS IN WESTERN EUROPE AND/OR CANADA OR THE UNITED STATES. OPERATIONAL LEADS DEVELOPED BY THE JORDANIAN NARCOTICS BUREAU WERE PASSED ON TO DEA. THE JORDANIAN NARCOTICS BUREAU BELIEVES THAT ANY SETTLEMENT OF THE ARAB/ISRAELI DISPUTE WILL CHANGE THE PATTERN OF DRUG TRAFFICKING IN THE AREA. IF THERE IS A SUBSTANTIAL WITHDRAWAL OF ISRAELI FORCES IN THE SINA'I, HASHISH AND OPIUM TRAFFIC CAN BE EXPECTED TO FLOW ACROSS THE SINA'I AS IT DID PRIOR

TO 1967. ALSO, THERE ARE PLANS TO ESTABLISH A SHIPPING LINE TO RUN FROM AQABA TO SUEZ, WHICH CAN BE EXPECTED TO BE USED BY OPIUM AND HASHISH SMUGGLERS. THE JORDANIANS ALSO EXPECT AN INCREASE IN HASHISH PRODUCTION IN LEBANON IN 1975 AS WELL AS AN INCREASE IN OPIUM AND MORPHINE BASE AS A RESULT OF THE TURKISH DECISION TO PERMIT THE CULTIVATION OF THE OPIUM POPPY AGAIN. ACCORDINGLY, THE JORDANIAN NARCOTICS BUREAU IS NOW FORMULATING PLANS TO DEAL WITH THESE NEW CIRCUMSTANCES.

H) NOT APPLICABLE.

I) TREATMENT/REHABILITATION/EDUCATION: PER PARA 1 B ABOVE THERE IS NO FORMAL TREATMENT OR REHABILITATION PROGRAM IN JORDAN FOR DRUG ADDICTS. NEITHER IS THERE ANY FORMAL DRUG EDUCATION PROGRAM. JORDANIAN NARCOTICS BUREAU OFFICERS LECTURE ON DRUG PROBLEMS AT VARIOUS GOVERNMENT MINISTRIES, THE POLICE ACADEMY, ETC. ONE OF THESE LECTURES IN PARTICULAR WAS VERY EFFECTIVE RECENTLY AT THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION WHEN THE OFFICER GIVING THE TALK BROUGHT A HARD OPIUM ADDICT WITH HIM. THE LATTER DESCRIBED HIS ADDICTION
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AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES WHICH LED TO HIS ADDICTION. HE THEN ANSWERED QUESTIONS FROM THE AUDIENCE. THIS PARTICULAR LECTURE HAS BEEN REQUESTED BY OTHER GOJ DEPARTMENTS.

4. THE MAIN THRUST OF THE NARCOTICS PROGRAM IN JORDAN FOR FY-76 WILL BE TO ENCOURAGE AND, VIA DEA, ASSIST THE JORDANIAN NARCOTICS BUREAU IN IMPROVING THEIR COLLECTION OF INTELLIGENCE RELATIVE TO DRUG TRAFFICKING IN NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES, PARTICULARLY WHERE THE DRUGS WILL EVENTUALLY REACH U.S. SERVICEMEN IN EUROPE OR THE U.S. ITSELF. WE WILL ALSO ENCOURAGE THE BUREAU TO GRADUALLY BUILD UP TO ITS AUTHORIZED STRENGTH, AT THE SAME TIME MAINTAINING THE PRESENT HIGH CRITERIA FOR THE SELECTION OF PERSONNEL FOR THE BUREAU. WE WILL ALSO CONTINUE TO USE THE JORDANIAN BUREAU AS AN ENTREE TO THOSE COUNTRIES IN THE AREA WHERE DIRECT CONTACT BETWEEN DEA PERSONNEL AND REPRESENTATIVES OF A PARTICULAR COUNTRY ARE PRESENTLY IMPOSSIBLE DUE TO POLITICAL CIRCUMSTANCES.
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